

Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 /025 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 637

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 2325

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES

REF: STATE 23125

1. RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES CITED REFTEL NOT FACTOR IN BANGKOK WITH MINOR EXCEPTION THAT THAI INTERNATIONAL HAS MONOPOLY ON BUS SERVICE FOR PASSENGERS BETWEEN TERMINAL AND AIRCRAFT.

2. NONETHELESS, PAA'S LAYTON CONTENDS THAT: (1) THAI INTERNATIONAL IS GIVEN RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL WHEN ADDITIONAL OFFICE OR RAMP SPACE BECOMES AVAILABLE AT DON MUANG; (2) THAI INTERNATIONAL DOES NOT PAY TAXES TO RTG ON INTER-LINE PAYMENTS TO THAI INTER BY PAA; (3) RTG CUSTOMS DUTIES ASSESSED ON SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT IMPORTED BY THAI INTER ARE MUCH LOWER THAN DUTIES FOR SAME ITEMS ASSESSED ON FOREIGN AIRLINES.

3. COMMENT: IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE RTG USES FOREGOING MEANS TO ASSIST THAI INTER. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, HAVE ANY EVIDENCE THAT SUCH PRACTICES EXIST, AND DO NOT IN ANY EVENT SEE THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE WOULD INHIBIT U.S. AIRLINES FROM COMPETING FOR CARRIAGE OF PASSENGERS AND CARGO IN THIS MARKET. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT AS A MATTER OF POLICY RTG PROHIBITS ALL-CARGO (BUT NOT COMBINATION) FIFTH-FREEDOM FREIGHT OPERATIONS BY FOREIGN AIRLINES.

WE BELIEVE THIS PROHIBITION IS NEGOTIABLE IF U.S. AIR-

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LINE INDUSTRY IS PREPARED TO GRANT RTG QUID PRO QUO.

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Message Attributes

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